NIAGARA COLLEGE
of Applied Arts and Technology
WELLAND CAMPUS
LEARNING

FIRST EDITION

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Smile

Janet Harpwood has her picture taken by David Davies, acting dean of applied arts, and Susan Moore, second-year journalism student. Mrs. Harpwood donated two 35mm Pentax cameras to the journalism-print program March 24. They were donated in memory of her son, Robert, a graduate of the program, who died in August, 1979, in a motorcycle accident at Welland County Speedway.

(Photo by Claveau)

SAC says no re-election despite Avetissian appeal

Niagara College will not hold a new election for the office of Student Administrative Council (SAC) president, Tom Mather, SAC president, said.

Mike Avetissian, a presidential candidate in the March 17 SAC election whose name was removed from the ballot March 16, called for the election to be declared invalid and a new election scheduled.

Tom said a new election will not be held because SAC feels justified in its decision to remove Mike's name.

Tom said SAC has the power to "negate" a candidate from running if he has violated the guidelines set up for candidates by Al Aboud, director of student services. Tom said Mike violated a guideline which guaranteed that available space be distributed according to the number of parties campaigning.

According to the guidelines, each candidate has five days to campaign, Tom said. Tom said both Mike and Joe Gualtieri, who was also running for president, reserved space in the Niagara News. Joe cancelled his ad knowing the paper would come out on Monday which would violate the guidelines, Tom said. Mike left the ad in the paper and SAC had "no other alternative" but to disqualify Mike, Tom said.

Mike said last week that both Tom and Al Chonka, vice-president of internal affairs, had assured him that the ad was all right.

Tom said, "Mike was really counting on being president" and when he was disqualified, "he was shocked and very mad; very mad is what we're seeing now."

At press time, Mike was not available to comment on the SAC decision.

But last week, he charged that he was being denied his constitution right to do so. "Our student council cannot deny anyone the right and if they do, they are in violation of our school constitution," he said.

Contrary to popular belief, Bookstore makes little profit

By ANNETTE PHILLIPS
Staff Writer

Running a small bookstore within the confines of a community college has proven to be no easy task for Mary Cunningham, bookstore supervisor.

A valuable service to college students, the bookstore is nevertheless a business, operated independently from the college.

Contrary to popular student belief, the bookstore makes little profit. What it does make does not come from students' pockets.

Yet students complain about costs of textbooks, line-ups, refund policies, out-of-stock merchandise, in-stock merchandise, and goods the store does not carry. The list goes on.

Bookstore personnel do the best they can to serve about 3,000 full-time students with only three staff members.

Each student receives a copy of the bookstore policy upon registration. Mrs. Cunningham said some students would rather complain than read the booklet or come and get the facts.

A major problem area, needless to say, is the price of books. "The high prices of books are hard on students, but students have to remember things are hard for us too," Mrs. Cunningham said.

No mark-up is put on any textbooks before sale. All items are sold at list price, that is the price listed on the invoice..

The store makes a small profit on discounts it often receives from the publishing companies. An average discount is 20 per cent on a bulk order. This profit, however, is quickly used up on shipping and handling charges, which the bookstore also pays.

Different prices in other stores, she said, could depend on the length of time the book has been in stock, and what edition the book is. Niagara College always carries the latest merchandise.

Since the bookstore must always stock the latest textbooks, it sometimes does not have all required books on hand.

Mrs. Cunningham said the publishers are printing new editions on a more regular basis than they used to and students should work with the most current available. This means that the store must re-order books more often.

Mrs. Cunningham said the bookstore gets only rent, hydro, heat and cleaning from the college. All other expenses, including salaries and employee benefits, come — as in any business — from bookstore revenues.

Not only must the bookstore re-order because of new editions, but often instructors change textbooks in the course.

Through salesmen who visit the school, instructors choose the texts they feel are best suited to their course and order them through the store.

There was a delay in receiving all the textbooks this year because no one expected such a high enrolment, Mrs. Cunningham said.

Conversely, as students and faculty have complained, the bookstore returns all unpurchased books soon after the beginning of term.

Most companies the bookstore deals with are American. Because of the low exchange rate, the store does not want to get stuck with books it cannot sell.

At the same time, the store's privilege to return the books expires soon after term begins.

As for early fall and winter line-ups, Mrs. Cunningham said the staff is trying to work out a better system, but has not found one yet.

Earlier this year, the bookstore asked for student input to help solve the many problem areas, but there was no response, she said.

Bilingual program approved for ECE

A bilingual early childhood education program has been approved by the Board of Governors and Council of Regents to begin in the fall at Niagara College.

Nicole Vigeant, administrator of French Language Services, said Niagara College is the fourth college in Ontario to provide the course. She said it will have the same curriculum as the one now offered but about 60 per cent of the subjects will be in French.

Mlle Vigeant said the program "will answer a local need" as the tourism program "answers a provincial need."

The program will have at least one full-time instructor and a half-day French daycare centre.

She said this is not tne first time such a program has been set up. In 1976 a program was begun but failed due to staff problems.

Only 15 applicants will be accepted for the program. Students will have the same job opportunities as the ones in the English program but they will have the advantage of speaking a second language.

Last November a survey taken in the community "awakened" parents' interests and a small group formed to try to organize a French daycare centre which gave Mlle Vigeant the idea of setting up a program again.

Open House for NC's Horticulture is success

A young girl, her face engulfed in a sparkling smile, best exemplified the feelings of the visitors to the Horticulture Centre's Open House, held on the weekend of March 21.

"It feels like summer," she said as her shiny blonde hair added another dimension of color to the surrounding array of plants and flowers.

The Horticulture Centre in St. Catharines provided an escape from the winter doldrums with its exhibits of floral and nursery design, a special children's garden and even a trickling waterfall.

Admittance to the centre was free, and a large number of the plants on display were available for sale. Tom Ball, staff adviser at the centre, said sales were good this year, with all profits going towards buying new equipment for the school.

BEGIN EARLY

The students at the centre worked continuously throughout the school year in preparation for their annual Open House. Mr. Ball said plans for the Open House begin months in advance with the ordering of bulbs and plants. They are covered with straw to provide insulation.

The greatest factor in determining the success of the Open House is manipulation of the growing temperatures of the plants, Mr. Ball said. For instance, warm spells in the late winter or early spring often cause plants to grow unusually fast, draining them of their chlorophyll and leaving them susceptible to the cold and frost. In such instances, the plants would be subjected to various growing conditions inside the 8,000-square-feet of greenhouse space at the centre.

Mr. Ball said there is no magic involved in the process, but rather careful planning and proper care of the plants. Unfortunately, the efforts to have the bulbs in proper bloom in time for the Open House are not always successful.

NO 100 PER CENT

"You can't regulate Mother Nature 100 per cent," Mr. Ball said.

The preparation for the Open House was done by students, while the teachers offered their assistance and help, Mr. Ball said. The emphasis of the Open House is on the students, giving them a chance to display the skills they have acquired.

"There are a lot of people asking good questions," Mr. Ball said. "And the students are doing a good job at answering them." He said practical application is the best possible learning experience.

The Open House, one of the most colorful of all of Niagara's five campuses, may not mean summer is here, but is sure is an indication it is coming!

For second story see Pg. 2

Camera club captures spirit

A treasure chest of memories, accumulated over the years, is buried deep in the minds of every individual. Most are forgotten, although a few seem vaguely familiar. Photography brings these precious moments back to life and captures the spirit of the past.

This is where the Niagara College Photography Club comes into focus. Members are taught the fundamentals of photography and film development.

Workshops for beginners are held once a week from September to December. From then on, members are encouraged to put their photography skills to use. They have free access to all of the club's facilities including cameras, black and white film and darkroom equipment.

The club's instructor is Evangelo Costadimas, club president and third year computer electrical and electronic student.

"I do it mostly as a hobby," Mr. Costadimas said. "I did it once for money, but didn't enjoy it much. It takes all the fun out of it."

His patience and understanding as an instructor have paid off, for he was elected president two years in a row.

Other members in the executive are Al Chisholm, vice-president and Brian Thiessen, secretary and treasurer. Elections for next year's executive will be held in April.

After several relocations, the club, founded in 1970, acquired its own darkroom in the Mackenzie building. It was previously located in Hennepin Hall, but the room was too small.

Next year, why not go on a treasure hunt and follow the map to successful photography by joining the Niagara College Photography Club? Membership is $5. It is a small price to pay for reliving those joyous moments that make life precious.

Niagara College, beware, Frankenstein rises again

Using the clothing, make-up and architecture of the 19th century Romantic Age, Frankenstein will be recreated at the Niagara College Theatre Centre April 20 to April 25.

Ideas for costumes, sets, and characters have emerged from the minds of directors and designers. Materials are being chosen, scenes painted and character roles practised.

The play is adapted from Mary Shelley's famous novel in which Dr. Frankenstein, a medical student, creates a man-like monster that slays its maker.

In charge of make-up is Debbie Perry, 19, first-year theatre arts student, who also worked on the make-up for Dracula, the students' last production. She is assisted by Lorrain Hasik and Carrie Ward.

All women's costumes for the play are designed and sewn by the students. Costumes for the men will be rented or found in costume storage. Brenda Fogarty, in charge of costumes, said.

CRUCIAL ROLE

James Ridyard, 20, second-year student, plays a crucial role in the production; he is Dr. Frankenstein. In the first scene the monster will be created and flashbacks will follow afterwards, he said.

The theatre arts program will finance the play. All proceeds will be used for future productions.

The make-up crew plans to keep the make-up subtle and soft since the setting of Frankenstein was during the Romantic period. During this period people were very meticulous and concerned about their appearance, Miss Perry said.

Research of the 1800s, the time in which the book was written, was done by the students to discover the fashion of that time and transport the atmosphere of that era onto the stage.

The students involved in the play undergo a rigorous training. Not only do they have classes from nine to five, they rehearse from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. six days a week. "It's a lot of hard work but it's also a lot of fun," Mr. Ridyard said.

TOUGH BUT FAIR

John Rapsey, director of Frankenstein, receives acclaim from his students for being a tough, but fair, director. "He is hard on us physically, but he is a very good director," one student said.

The technical crew said special effects such as rain, thunder and lightning bolts will be created for Frankenstein.

Asked how it feels to be on stage acting, Mr. Ridyard said: "You feel important, and you feel as if you are giving a gift."

Welland project will aid tourism

The Chamber of Commerce for greater Welland has sponsored a project called Discover Welland to aid the city's tourism industry.

Hughena Johnstone, project manager, said a renovated 25-ton caboose from Canadian National Railways will serve as a tourist bureau for the city. The caboose behind C and E refractories will be moved to the corner of Prince Charles Road Riverside Drive, she said.

The project, started Feb. 2, will take 10 months to complete.

"It is quite a large project," Miss Johnstone said, "It will have to be moved down the tracks with large cranes. An additional line of railroad tracks must be laid."

The project is funded by a federal government grant.

Floral wonderland at Open House

By WENDY SHIELDS
Staff Writer

As in Alice in Wonderland, the Horticultural Centre contains beds and beds of bright flowers. However, it was not necessary to fall through a rabbit hole to enter the garden. The Horticultural Centre was open to the public March 21 to 22.

Tom Ball, staff advisor, said students have been preparing all year for open house. All the credit goes to the students who worked on the project.

In practical horticultural, students learn how to plant and water, drive tractors, and use lawnmowers. Mr. Ball said plants become accustomed to the way they are watered. If different people water them, they do not seem to grow as well.

Throughout the year, bulbs are stored outside in straw. This acts as an insulating device in the summer and a heating device in the winter.

Barbara Towsley, second-year horticulture student, said bulbs were forced to bloom for Open House by transfering them from a cold temperature into warmer green houses, as the growing stages progress. Within six to eight weeks the warm air caused the bulbs to bloom.

Like Alice's pool of tears, a simulated waterfall and pond were made by four first-year students, Kathy Schwanz, Mary Tries, Ann Stafford and Penny Traviss.

What Wonderland garden would be complete without a white rabbit? Tickets were drawn to find the rabbit a new home.

"Don't be afraid to touch and smell," said a sign on the door leading to the children's room. The room was created to spark children's interst in the natural sciences, Mr. Ball said.

A peek through the key hole showed a "have-an-apple" tree, marigold seeds for the children to plant, and an assortment of brewed teas.

Mr Ball said Open House gave the public an opportunity to see what students have accomplished throughout the year. It also gave students an opportunity to answer some skilltesting questions from the public.

The Horticultural Centre contains everything an experienced or amateur horticulturalist needs to know. It is truly the Wonderland of flowers.

Street rods on display

The third annual Street Rod Showoff will be held in Welland April 4 and 5.

More than 20 of Niagara Region's finest and fanciest "souped up" cars and trucks will be on display, with profits going to the local chapter of the National Retinitis Pigmentosa (RP) Foundation of Canada.

RP is the name for a group of hereditary diseases affecting the retina of the eye. Symptoms include night blindness, tunnel vision and, in severe cases, total loss of sight.

The show runs from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, April 4, and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday, April 5. Admission is $1.50, and children under 12 are free.

For more information, contact Malcolm or Cathy Dilts at 735-4101 or 735-3869.

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Go for it!

Scott Murchison, third-year electronic engineering technology, jumps for a frisbee in a friendly game of catch in Manera Court. Scott and two other students took advantage of the mild temperatures and sunny weather to get a little rest and relaxation between classes.
(Photo by Heath)

SAC money disappears

More than $200 was stolen in two separate robberies from the Student Administrative Council [SAC] ofice in the past month, Nancy Twerdohlib, SAC secretary said.

Sandra Huppe, SAC accountant, and Miss Twerdohlib discovered $130 missing from the accountant's desk drawer Feb. 18. Miss Twerdohlib found $90 missing from her desk March 16.

Police were notified in both incidents.

Miss Twerdohlib said the SAC office and both desks are locked nights and weekends. Police found no damages to the locks.

"It's really strange," Miss Twerdohlib said. "The locks are good and they couldn't be pried open without splintering the desk."

The stolen money was from the video machines.

Possible site for theatre location

A public school building in Niagara Falls is being examined as a possible site for the theatre arts program.

Irv Griffiths, architect from Fonthill, is making a study on Fallsview Public School in Niagara Falls to see if it can be adapted for the theatre arts program.

"By May, we'll have the report for the Board of Governors and see if there's any feasibility of renovating the building," Jacqueline Robarts, president of Niagara College, said.

BOUGHT LAND

Niagara College purchased a piece of land adjacent to the school two years ago. The school is closing in June because of declining enrolment and Niagara College was given the option of purchasing the building.

The school was built in the 1920s and has been enlarged three times; the last addition was in 1940.

Miss Robarts stressed that it's just a possibility and, if the school is worth buying, it will have to go before the ministry of education for approval.

The satellite campus would "provide for a more consolidated presence in Niagara Falls," Miss Robarts said.

Province pays for job training

By LINDA FORD
Staff Writer

Finding a job, especially the first one, can be disillusioning and frustrating. Young people often find themselves in a vicious circle. To get a job they need experience. To get experience they need a job.

To help young people find their first full-time job, the Ontario government created the Ontario Career Action Program [OCAP]. This program is offered at Career House, 5166 Victoria Ave., Niagara Falls, an affiliate of Niagara College.

Erik Madsen, project director, said OCAP is on-the-job training, usually for 16 weeks, while the Ontario government pays the trainees a weekly allowance of $100. Mr. Madsen said OCAP has provided training for 585 people since April 1, 1980.

Gord McPherson, a counsellor at Niagara College, co-ordinates Career House with student services. Mr. McPherson said OCAP cannot guarantee any trainee a permanent job, but 75 per cent of the trainees are offered a job when they complete the training period and five per cent return to school.

SEEKING WORK

OCAP is open to people between 16 and 24 who have been put out of school and actively seeking work for at least three months. An applicant must be unemployed and cannot have held a full-time job related to his career choice.

Mr. McPherson said he encourages everyone who comes to Career House to attend the sessions offered. He said most people "are not aware of their options."

Mr. Madsen said there were 1,600 applications for OCAP this year. He said his job is to match the career choice with employers offering training in that field.

The employer makes the final selection of a trainee. The employer also designs a training program, with the assistance of the college co-ordinator, and provides a learning environment with proper guidance and instruction.

Mr. McPherson said he tries to deal with employers who might hire the trainee full-time. He said most OCAP applicants want to learn a trade, such as mechanics or clerical work. Since it was created in 1977, OCAP has been helping young people overcome the "first-job" dilemma. There are 120 people on the program throughout the peninsula.

NC opportunity to enter float in Rose Festival

Niagara College students have the opportunity to construct a float to be entered in the 20th Anniversary Rose Festival parade June 6 in Welland.

Joe Gualtieri, Student Administration Council (SAC) president, said the college was invited by the parade committee to enter a float which would join others representing regions from across North America.

"We would like to have the students give us some ideas for a theme for the float," Joe said.

He said SAC is looking for volunteers to help build the float.

Ideas for the theme of the float should be submitted no later than April 10, Joe said.

Governments offer jobs for Ont. young people

The federal and provincial governments are offering a number of programs and services to aid Ontario's young people in finding summer employment.

Many programs offer positions that have been designed to complement the academic and career interest of young people.

The provincial government offers jobs in a variety of ministries. Ministry of agriculture and food, ministry of health and the ministry of industry and tourism are just three of the many ministries offering summer jobs.

The federal government offers jobs in other countries as well as in Canada. There are jobs available in the developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. There are also student exchanges to and from all parts of Canada.

Experience '81, an Ontario-sponsored program, offers 10,000 positions in provincial ministries and associate agencies.

A book, which describes the employment opportunities, Serving Ontario's Youth, is available at Student Services. It also provides valuable information about looking for a job and making the most of it.

Each program accepts only a specific number of people, so applications should be sent soon. Rates of pay differ.

Most programs run from May to September.

Nabs suspect in Simcoe bldg.

Intuition of a staff member played a part in the downfall of the Niagara College flasher. He was apprehended on the second floor of the Simcoe building about 8 p.m. Thursday, March 19.

"I was very grateful to Mr. Gillies and Mike, the security guard, for capturing and holding him down until the police came," Jacqueline Robarts, college president, said.

Descriptions from security guards and a night school psychology class were also involved in the decision of Eugene Gillies, director of continuing education services, that a man could be the flasher.

A HUNCH

The flasher performed for a psychology class three weeks earlier on the third floor of the Simcoe building. Mr. Gillies said the teacher and students of the class gave him information which "helped us to get him. I had a hunch he'd be back."

When he first spotted the man on the third floor, Mr. Gillies said he yelled, "Hey, wait a minute," and the man ran. He said the man's clothes were the giveaway "and the fact that he turned and ran."

The man ran through the third floor lecture hall and down the stairs to the second floor. He then ran down the corridor and got half-way down the stairs to the first floor when a security guard, who just happened to be there, "scared him back up to the second floor" where he was tackled at the landing.

RIGHT PLACE, TIME

"Security was in the right place at the right time," Mr. Gillies said. He and the security guard pulled the man into the second floor lounge and called for the help of students "who were working in fashion arts," to help hold him down.

"I think it was a good co-operative action on the part of the two," Miss Robarts said.

It took "four people to hold him down," each one holding an arm or a leg," Mr. Gillies said. "He's an extremely strong man." One student was sent for the other security guard and to get the police.

Mr. Gillies told the News that they held the man down forcibly until the police came, but "we tried to keep him as comfortable as possible."

Mr. Gillies said the man just seemed to know the building because "he knew where the stairs were and that he could get through the lecture theatre on the third floor to the other side." He said there would be no problem at all for the man to get into the college because the doors were unlocked.

Frank Fazzalari, 29, of 63 Empire St., Welland, was charged with two counts of indecent acts, a police spokesman said.

Second flasher strikes on campus

Another flasher has been seen on campus at Niagara College, following the capture of a suspect March 19.

"We must have always felt there was more than one flasher because the descriptions didn't match," Marie Lynch, co-ordinator of the fashion arts program, said.

Although one fashion arts student thought "he might just be a high school student driving his bike around," when the man exposed himself to her in the parking lot, March 22, she knew the second flasher hadn't gone into hiding.

The man was on a red 10-speed bike. "He looked about 19." He had a red and black jacket and jeans on, had a slim build, was about five feet eight inches and had dark hair "not all one length."

Mrs. Lynch said she is distressed at the idea of people thinking the second flasher appeared because of all the publicity. "That's not true. We have felt there were at least two for some time."

"It could have been stopped," she said. "A method has to be found..."

Editorials

Ignorance is not bliss

Last month, the Niagara News reported a survey by fashion arts students that revealed most people didn't know the first thing about that program. Perhaps many of us were surprised to learn fashion arts is primarily a merchandising program, not a modelling course.

But isn't this a common practice at Niagara College, "looking down" at other programs, because we imagine they are less important than ours? A classmate once ridiculed the type of subjects taught in another program, when at least three of their courses were identical to ours.

As shown in the fashion arts survey, opinions are formed because of ignorance. And what's worse, ignorance can lead to an exaggerated sense of one's worth and a lower opinion of others'. What we need is knowledge of one another, understanding and acceptance. We need not be alike but we need to accept our differences.

It would be naive to pretend that certain programs at Niagara, and careers, don't carry greater status than others, but each has value and fills a need.

If ignorance is a cause of misunderstanding, then education is a solution. We can start practising at college what we will need to practise in the world — learning, caring, understanding.

At Niagara, the Youth Canada Program, Frenchship Club and Student Administrative Council promote knowledge and understanding.

We, as Canadians, must especially strive for understanding. Because Canada is a vast land with native peoples, two distinct founding nations, many ethnic groups and a diverse population with strong regional loyalties, conflicts are bound to arise. Quebec separatism and Western alienation are examples. But with knowledge through dialogue, we can try to understand one another.

A few days ago, Preston Manning, a member of Concerned Western Canadians, spoke at Niagara College about Western alienation and energy and constitutional issues. After his speech, a student commented: "He came with his mind made up and we came with our minds made up, so what's the use of even talking about it?"

Learning. Understanding. That's the use!

If Canada is to survive and grow, Canadians must learn to understand and accept one another. Perhaps a good start would be to get to know more about each other at Niagara College...Do you know what Christians on Campus is? Do you know the construction engineering program is not a "hammer and shovel" course?

Carmen Leger

Canada: sad waste of potential

The question was posed by an aggressive, grizzled old flea market vendor in Florida. Overhearing the Canadian "eh," he took the opportunity to lean across his cluttered table and ask:

"Canada's rich...she's got everything, so why ain't she goin' nowhere?"

The question was a surprise, and it was hard to think of a suitable, patriotic retort. But the fact of the matter is, he was absolutely right.

Why isn't Canada "goin' nowhere?" In land size, she is second only to the Soviet Union. Canada is fertile and beautiful. She has more trees, more minerals and other resources than most other countries.

Yet so much of the Canadian bounty is exported to her southern neighbor, the United States. Resources and people alike have a way of slipping over the border. Canada's resources help the U.S. economy, our people populate the old-age havens of Arizona and Florida.

Despite Canada's wealth and potential, her inflation is double-digit. The population is concentrated in a small arc along the shoreline of Ontario. The leaders are too busy jumping at each other's throats like alley-cats to get around to running the country.

Even culturally, Canada remains swamped by problems. At Stratford, it took government interference before a Canadian artistic director could be hired over a British one. The National Gallery and the Royal Ontario Museum are also having problems.

So the question remains unanswered...not only for truculent flea market vendors, but more importantly, for all Canadians.

Cynthia Janzen

Royal wedding is royal pain

These days it seems impossible to pick up a newspaper without finding reference to Prince Charles, Lady Diana, or their recent engagement. Such heart-rending tales as, "I delivered Lady Diana," "Prince Charles loves salmon," and "Lady Diana confesses: 'I knew as a child I'd marry Charles,' " are scattered among the pages of every major newspaper in Canada.

The royal couple seem to have lost every shred of privacy they ever possessed. Pictures of Charles, bloodied and bruised after a fall from his horse, appeared around the world, while a shot of him falling clumsily up the stairs to an airplane got almost as much attention. He's beginning to look like an advertisement for protective padding rather than the future king.

Of course, Lady Diana isn't immune to all this fame either. Who can forget that notorious picture of Diana innocently playing in the sunshine with several of her kindergarten students? Too bad she didn't expect a visit from the press; she might have worn a slip. At any rate, the world got more than a superficial view of the future Queen of England that day.

Then there's the Queen. Naturally, she has expressed "extreme pleasure" over the engagement of her eldest son. After all, a 32-year-old bachelor who still lives at home is enough to make any mother anxious.

Thankfully, it will be a short engagement and after the wedding things will return to normal. No more scanning the paper every day for tips on what to feed the prince in a pinch; should he ever drop by unexpectedly (a very probable situation in Welland) or how to dress for an engagement ball (also very probable). We can all concern ourselves with the more important things in life: inflation, unemployment, pollution and crime. On second thought, is it possible they're going to televise the honeymoon?

Dolly Kushmier

Journalists' jobs

Four 1980-81 second-year journalism students have started work on newspapers as far away as Alberta.

Michael Robb began work with the Onaway (Alta.) Tribune this week as a reporter-photographer.

Brad Heath started as a reporter-photographer with the Bobcaygeon (Ont.) Independent this week.

Karen Runka and Laurie Ellis are employed as reporter-photographers on the Fort Erie Times-Review. They began their positions two weeks ago.

Letter to the Editor

Thanks Niagara News

Memo to: Dorothy Clark, Niagara News staff.

On behalf of our students and the local chapter of OACETT, I would like to express my thanks to you for giving up your own time to participate in the Information Night. We are all looking forward to reading your report in the next publication of Niagara News.

Your work, and that of your colleagues and teachers, gives us an opportunity from week to week to learn what is happening at the College. It is your paper which mirrors the activity of the various schools and provides the link not only among the schools, but also between students and teachers.

Thank you for your help.

Hans Miethig
Program Co-ordinator
Construction Engineering Technology

First Edition

A trial run for first-year Journalism-Print students

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Bullpit

Is computer-managed education future salvation for children?

By IAN WILSON
Staff Writer

"Who's in there?" asks a massive football player as he examines an electronic game. The answer is, of course, nobody. The question in typical, for no matter how domesticated they become, computers still provoke great curiosity in human beings.

Advancements in electronic technology are beyond comprehension for most people. But what is easily grasped is the fact that computers will command an ever increasing portion of our daily lives. Ultimately, a computer terminal could become a common tool in every home.

John G. Kemeny of the Kiewit Computation Centre of Dartmouth College predicted, as early as 1965: "I am confident that, by 1990, millions of Americans will have the ability to do significant research in their homes. In effect, by 1990, every home can become a mini-university."

Ontario Education Minister Bette Stephenson predicted, in November of 1980, that within decades our contemporary schools will be obsolete. The technology is within our reach; the problem is dealing with computer-managed instruction in a mature, conscientious way.

No devil

The computer is not a devil. It is quickly becoming a valuable asset to industry all over the world, and an excellent training tool in education. But let's not go overboard. As the Science Council of Canada points out: "It (the computer) cannot be treated as just another product of our industrial civiization."

The advantages of computer-managed instruction are not to be cast off lightly.

A computer can drill many students at once, with each student proceeding at his own speed. Unlike most teachers, computers have a bottomless pit of patience.

Great! But what about the psychological effects of this method of learning? Children would be learning from a non-thinking machine. This could give the world generations of adults with a natural scepticism towards any information they do not receive from their computer terminal. Parents could appear stupid; thus children would be inclined to run to the computer for any help. Instead of hearing, "Go ask your father" from mother, or "Go ask your mother" from father, children may hear "Go ask the computer."

Having the resources of the world's best libraries at fingertip could produce, in children and adults, an alienating independence. This "I don't need anyone" attitude would be extremely dangerous. It would push people apart in a time when what is needed most is a sense of brotherhood.

New world

Author Aldous Huxley illustrated another use of computer-managed instruction in his novel, Brave New World. The lower class Gammas were happy with their lot because they were not given the knowledge of anything better. Therefore, they performed menial jobs at low wages with a contented smile. Realistically, a child's education could be wonderfully diversified or dangerously limited.

A question/ answer programmer must anticipate every possible answer to his questions. A student giving a correct reply which is not programmed, will not receive a mark.

Students arriving at an incorrect answer by the correct method would receive no further help than a signal flashing, "Incorrect, try again."

I am, of course, exaggerating the situation. But I believe my fears are well grounded. One only has to look at the studies made of the effect of television on children to see the danger. The question to ask is why has this amazing invention been exploited and reduced to a whimpering flash of spineless information.

I am not suggesting abandonment of home computer terminals or computer-managed instruction. What I am suggesting is that we, as tax payers, act with maturity and responsibility. Men have a habit of diving into lakes without knowing their depth. The result can be a broken neck. I want my children and grand-children — necks intact — to be taught, not programmed.

Viewpoint

Tanks wait in wings

Polish union threatens ruling Communist Party

By ANDREW DRESCHEL
Staff Writer

In the realm of realpolitik, when a nation's fate hangs in the balance, the niceties of moral considerations seldom decide which way the scale will tip.

The right and wrong of every political choice is almost invariably crushed beneath the weight of political necessity.

If, while studying the international chessboard, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics decides it must move to control what it perceives as chaos in strike-ridden Poland, it won't intervene because it's safe to do so, but because it would be unsafe not to.

According to George Alexander Blazetich, chairman of academic studies and lecturer in modern history at Niagara College, if the Soviet Union invades Poland it will be for "strategic defence" purposes.

In his lectures to 150 broadcasting, journalism, and general college students, Mr. Blazetich attempts to impress upon them that "modern communism, to the extent it's based on Leninism, posits a vanguard of elites" through which the Communist Party hopes to lead the state into an era of pure communism.

Arbitrator

In other words, the Communist Party leads, proposes and directs and since the party is the supreme arbitrator of all and everything, it cannot tolerate an officially recognized opposition.

The formation and rapidly rising power of Solidarity, the Polish worker's 10 million member union, created on Aug. 31, 1980, in response to food and rights shortages, is in effect a challenge to the Communist Party's claim to be the sole representative of the proletariat, Mr. Blazetich said.

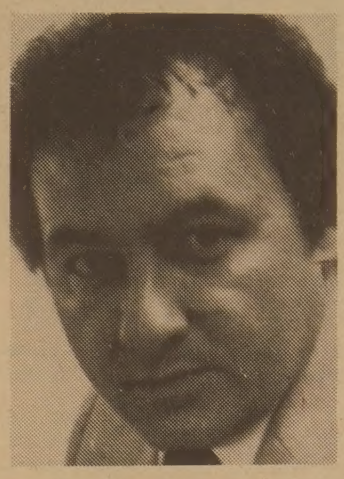
He said since the Catholic church in Poland already occupies a position of influence in relation to Communist Party ideology, the voice of a third power centre is seen by Moscow, the nerve centre of Eastern Europe's communist governments, as potentially dangerous to the entire system.

Mr. Blazetich, who holds an honors B.A., an M.A., and a degree in education from the University of Toronto and McMaster, said: "Unless there is some considerable change in the direction and stance of the Polish union in relationship to the party, the Soviet Union will invade."

A direct analogy in the use of power can be drawn between the Polish and Soviet dilemma and Canada and the United States.

If Canada was perceived by the United States to be unstable, chaotic and threatening to its security, all questions of right and wrong aside, the United States would have to intervene.

It's a simple matter of strategic necessity. It would be unwise, unsafe and unheard of not to.



G.A. BLAZETICH

Mr. Blazetich, who has travelled through the Caribbean, Africa, and Western and Eastern Europe, interprets the events in Poland as "a dynamic that once set afoot, works itself out."

Mr. Blazetich traces one cause of the dynamic to the development of Soviet tolerance for a "polymorphic" interpretation of communist ideology.

In the beginning there was communism, immaculately conceived by Marx, fathered by Lenin, born in the U.S.S.R. and nurtured in Moscow.

Moscow soon became the ideological centre of communism, where the big red banner of worldwide revolution was planted in the great good earth.

With the passage of time and postwar recovery of Eastern Europe, the Soviets came to accept a certain ideological flexibility that accommodated the various traditions, national identities and socio-cultural differences among its "allied" states, Mr. Blazetich said.

With the relative loosening of its reins, particularly at the beginning of the Khruschev era, the Argus-eyed Soviet Union warily watched the hydra of incipient "revisionism" spread throughout Eastern Europe, he said.

In 1953 the Soviets invaded East Germany, in 1956 Hungary, and in 1968, Czechoslovakia.

Each time Soviet tanks rolled, it was in the name of suppressing "counter-revolutionary" activity.

Each time the tanks rolled, those forces had crossed a line that infringed upon the ideological integrity of the ruling Communist Party.

Now Poland appears to be risking the same fate. Mr. Blazetich describes it as suicidal.

If the Poles cross the ideological frontier of Communist Party supremacy and if the Soviets do invade, Mr. Blazetich believes the Poles will fight — as, presumably, Canadians would resist American intervention in Canada's internal affairs.

According to Mr. Blazetich, "it's the geopolitical consideration that is foremost" in the Soviet's minds.

To the military mind, the U.S.S.R. cannot afford a disruption in its carefully conceived network of defence.

Poland is a necessary link in the Warsaw Pact's frontline of defence against the West's NATO military alliance.

If Poland's contribution to the Warsaw Pact alliance is in any way jeopardized, the whole structure of Soviet military thinking would be threatened, he said.

The Soviet Union is not likely to let this happen.

But, as the ideology of the U.S.S.R. has certain commitments and objectives, so does that of the West.

If the Soviets move with force into Poland, Mr. Blazetich said the NATO countries would immediately issue a condemnation and mobilize their armed forces.

Both moves are predictable.

Necessity

The West, motivated by the same strategic necessity that may force the Soviets to intervene, must adopt a defence posture to any unannounced Soviet troop movement in Europe. According to Mr. Blazetich, this is the classic response to the military concern that "once an invasion begins, you don't know where it will end."

Though Mr. Blazetich believes an invasion is inevitable under the present circumstances, he doesn't believe it's inevitable in absolute terms.

But, if the invasion takes place, "Poland could be a pawn in the international chess game between two superpowers committed to different ideologies," Mr. Blazetich said.

Then, while the world draws its breath and expectantly waits to see what happens next, the West would study the global chessboard and decide its move.

"Under existing circumstances, Poland stands to lose," Mr. Blazetich said.

But the great game will continue regardless.

Roving Reporter

By BETTINA JACKEVICIUS
NELLY HAANSTRA
Staff Writers

Study week was recently completed at Niagara College. Did you use this week to advantage? What do you think are some alternatives to study week?

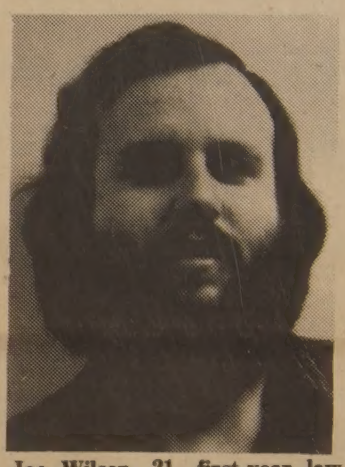
Susan Burnaccioni, 18, first-year business administration: Yes, I had more time to catch up on work.

Jean Butcher, 19, second-year general college: Yes, part of it. I caught up on some work and I studied for a major test. I do like the break.

Randy McRae, 28, second-year electronic technology: I didn't use it to advantage here. I was working all week. It is a good rest.

Pete Secord, 19, second-year construction and technology: No, I didn't academically. We do need a break then. Study week is a good name for it because people do study, but I didn't.

Ed Wilson, co-ordinator, general college: Yes, I did. I was on holiday in Florida. I think it's good, necessary to combat February blues.



Joe Wilson, 21, first-year law and security administrations: Yes, I had a vacation. Study week should be later in March, the weather is better.

Laurie Rogers, 18, first-year steno-typist: I went away to Toronto. We need a break, too.

Dennis Kozina, 20, first-year air-conditioning and refrigeration: I caught up on a lot of lost sleep. I think we need that week.

NC Horticulture student landscapes Ottawa nursery

A dream is turning into reality for Roseanna Turner, second-year horticulture student.

Miss Turner, 21, designed a basic landscape for Black Barts Retail Nursery in Ottawa. This summer she will return to Ottawa to see her plans put into reality.

Students taking landscaping at the Horticultural Centre in St. Catharines work under the supervision of Peter Thompstone. Landscaping projects are assigned for the first three terms. However, for the fourth students are allowed to choose their own projects and design them in color.

Miss Turner said, "I try to make everything on paper look like outside. It looks more real with color."

It took about 30 hours to complete the color landscape, Miss Turner said. The basic landscape took only 15 hours. She worked on it at nights for about five hours, then let it sit for a couple of days before working on it again.

Red geraniums are used at the entrance of the nursery to attract motorists' attention. The whole nursery was designed to be as bright and attractive as possible.

Plants were chosen according to height, color and season. Miss Turner said planning a nursery is similar to planning the interior of a house. In a house everything cannot be the same height. Similarly, in a garden the bigger plants must be placed near the back and in corners, while smaller plants are placed near the front.

Niagara student dispels curse of crypt

If running around Hopkins' Tomb on Friday, the 13th, and still making it to school Monday, the 15th, will prove that legends about the tomb are pure superstition, a Niagara College student can boast success.

Michael Jiggens, 22, 5962 Frontenac St., Niagara Falls, chose Friday, March 13, to go out to the tomb, on Longbeach, between PortColborne and Wainfleet, to perform two forbidden rituals.

The rituals, running around the crypt three times, then touching it, and running 10 times around it, then knocking on it three times, are called, by area residents, part of the curse of Hopkins' Tomb.

The legend, residents say, warns that anyone performing the rituals or tampering with the crypt will invoke the wrath of unknown forces.

Those reared in the area tell stories varying from a stubbed toe to the death of those who spurned the warning.

Mr. Jiggens slighted superstition, not only in one, but three ways. Ignoring the warnings attributed to the tomb, he performed both rituals. Together, the number of laps he jogged around the tomb total 13, and he performed them on Friday, the 13th.

A first-year journalism student who thinks Friday, the 13th, is "an interesting conversation piece, I suppose," Mr. Jiggens said the legends of Hopkins' Tomb are "ridiculous."

"I think people are overreacting. There was nothing out there to be afraid of, and Friday, the 13th, is like any other day."

He felt no apprehension, the student said, before, during or after the ritual, and "didn't give it a second thought."

"I woke up at 7:30 (Saturday morning) and looked out the window. I remember thinking the legend had said I wouldn't see light of day. Well, I saw the sun, so I went back to sleep."

Several Niagara students watched the performance, and a few followed suit, some running around the crypt 25 times. Others refused to enter a stone fence which surrounds the crypt and some would not leave their cars.

ERT adds new program on driving fundamentals

The Educational Resource Technician Program (ERT), is implementing a new course whereby second-year students will be able to work towards their Class F driver's licence.

Elvira Lucas, program coordinator, said the Class F Licence is often required for jobs with the handicapped, and is always an asset when applying for this type of job. The licence is needed to drive commercial vehicles such as vans and small buses.

Although they are not expected to complete their licences before the end of term, second-year ERT students will be working over the next several weeks learning the licence requirements.

Students will learn the mechanical end of the vehicles as well.

"We want the students to be able to get under the hood and learn what it's all about," Mrs. Lucas said.

"This is the first time such a program has been operated. If it is successful, we will do more of it."

Mrs. Lucas' husband, Michael, began teaching the course last week.

Enter The Great Canadian Contest Win! The Great Canadian Pizza!

Issue No. 10 Winner: Vita Del Duca.

Issue No. 13 Answer: Mount Logan.

Contest open to all Students Niagara College and Staff.

Myth of Hopkins' tomb still intrigues residents

By LINDA DUGUAY
Staff Writer

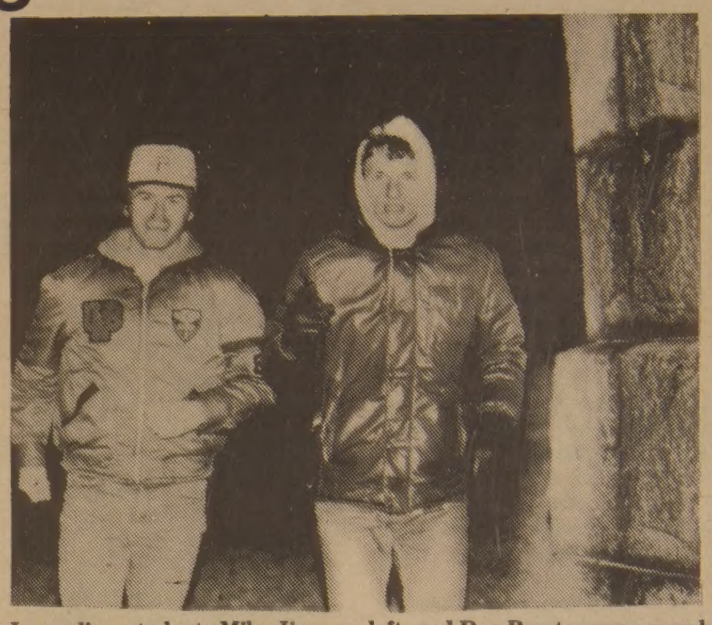
The road, barely wide enough to allow two cars to pass, climbs and twists for miles along the lake, filling a night wanderer with an eerie sense of foreboding that something lies ahead, almost beckoning the bravest of fools to ignore its warning.

The sun sinks ever deeper and strange feelings begin to creep into the very core of one's essence. The shadows take form; the humming of the wind through telephone wires becomes an inexplicable haunting force; even the leafless trees seem to hang over and lurch.

The first instinct says turn around, but the alluring force is stronger than instinct.

Hopkin's Tomb, dated 1899, sits on Longbeach, Lake Erie, in Oakwood Cemetery. Halfway between Port Colborne and Wainfleet, the crypt was originally built and intended for six members of the Hopkins family, a wealthy line who ran a clothing store in Port Colborne. Four members of the family are interred there.

Over the years rumors have cropped up, spread, been twisted and retwisted.



Journalism students Mike Jiggens, left, and Don Procter run around Hopkins' tomb, risking its "curse." (Photo by Duguay)

Legends

Legends ascribed to the tomb are discussed among those who have heard of the "strange" occurrences, which they claim result from tampering with its unknown forces.

"One of my friends saw a dog near the tomb," Kathy Cole, first-year journalism student, said. "She walked over to the dog to pet it and it vanished. It didn't run away. It just was there and then it wasn't."

First-year journalism student Diana Buri related another story.

"A motorcycle gang in the 60's drove around the tomb and one of them performed the ritual. A week later he was decapitated."

The legend, recounted by several "informed" people, states the grave is haunted by Samuel Hopkins, a wealthy man from Port Colborne, who hanged his wife.

Children mocked and laughed at him, and before he died he vowed to avenge himself.

When he was placed in the tomb, the door was locked and the key buried under a rock on the beach near Rathfon Inn. The water level has risen, and the rock is now buried in Lake Erie.

It is presumed, the legend maintains, that there is something of value in the crypt. Two rituals are said to be forbidden near the tomb.

Anyone who runs around the crypt three times, then touches it, will suffer an injury to the part of his body with which he touched it. The second, more perilous ritual warns that anyone who runs around the crypt 10 times, then knocks three times on it, will not live to see morning.

"I don't know anyone who's ever had the nerve to do it," Miss Cole said. "Although there's no light around it, the whole graveyard is always well lit at night.

"It's eerie. I'd like you to go down there some night — not at midnight because I wouldn't go myself at midnight — but around eight or nine o'clock, and I guarantee you'll get the creeps."

An English instructor at a Port Colborne public school, who prefers not to be named, said he was aware of strange events attributed to the myth.

Dies

One night, he said, three of his good friends went out drinking and decided to take a ride to the tomb. Determined to see inside, they broke the door down. One went in, he said, but the others got cold feet. Upon coaxing, one put his arm in, and the other, his leg. Within a week, the teacher said, the man who had gone in was killed, the second man lost his arm, and the third, his leg.

The instructor said he had heard stories of mysterious red lights encircling the tomb at midnight, but he had never seen them.

A few months ago, he said, someone painted the tomb and a stone fence which surrounds it pink, and lightning struck a nearby tree which toppled the crypt.

The public school teacher would not comment on his opinion of the legend, but quietly said: "My grandmother once told me you should never fool with the dead."

John Wilgosh, proprietor of Camelot Beach Variety store, a mile up the road from the graveyard, worked as cemetery caretaker when the door was broken down. He corroborated what the English teacher had said.

"But it's all a lot of nonsense as far as I'm concerned. It gives the kids something to get excited about."

A resident of the area for more than 40 years, Mr. Wilgosh said he had heard thousands of stories come and go, and change with time, but he'd never seen anything out of the ordinary involving Hopkins Tomb.

Although most people said they are not overly superstitious, not many would agree to perform either of the rituals.

"I really don't think anything will happen but I'm not about to take a chance," Miss Cole said.

Miss Buri said: "I'm not superstitious, but I'd rather leave things I don't know about alone."

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Sunny south draws students

Thousands of Ontario high school students engaged in the yearly mass exodus to the south last week for a sneak preview of summer.

Southern locales, like Florida and Myrtle Beach, S.C., have become increasingly popular among students, who save for months to enjoy a week of fun in the sun during March break.

Liz Olsthoorn, an employee at Kruise Travel, Thorold, described the March break as being their busiest time of the year.

"Of course, most of these trips have been booked months in advance," Miss Olsthoorn said, "but we arrange more trips for March than any other time of the year. Some people are already booking flights for next March."

Miss Olsthoorn said most students spend $400 to $600 for their flight and hotel accommodation, although "how much you spend largely depends on where you stay and what airline you deal with."

"The prices in Florida are also highly inflated during the March break because it's their peak tourist period," Miss Olsthoorn said.

Fort Lauderdale and Myrtle Beach are the most popular spots for students because they are not too far away and not as expensive as Hawaii or the Caribbean.

Bright future for winner of high academic achievement

By DIANA BURI
Staff Writer

Everyone knows the story of Dorothy, the little girl from Kansas who ran away from home and found herself in the Land of Oz. At the end of the story, Dorothy found the things she was looking for within herself. She, of course, lived happily ever after.

But fairy-tales don't come true — do they?

Jean McMullin, 31, second-year social services student at Niagara College, may not be riding off into the sunset yet, but she is well on her way.

Jean, awarded highest academic achievement for a mature student last year, will be graduating in June.

"I feel good," she said. "I feel I've achieved something for me."

But it was not always like this for Jean.

By the time she was 17, Jean was married and expecting her first child, Paul, now 14. Three years later Danny, now 11, was born. On July 25, 1977, Jean's 28th birthday, she left her husband.

"I wanted to get my life in order," she said. She said her husband was an alcoholic. He constantly beat her.

The one person to support Jean at this time was her sister-in-law, she said.

"Those were difficult times, but once I made the decision to leave, I was happy," she said.

"A lack of information kept me with my husband so long — shame kept me there — but my sister-in-law was always there to support me."

While her husband was at work, Jean and her children fled to a hostel called Women In Transition in Toronto.

JEAN MCMULLIN

They remained at the hostel for two weeks. During this time, she found an apartment and applied for welfare. Once somewhat established in Toronto, she began working as a volunteer at the hostel. She remained there for 10 months.

"I wanted to help other ladies," she said. "Women should know they are not alone."

Jean and her family relocated in St. Catharines the following year to make "a brand new start."

"For a year we worked on getting ourselves together," she said. "The boys are doing well in school and we have great communication."

Jean volunteered as a "parent callback" at Lincoln Centennial School for a year.

"I wasn't dating then," she said. "I wanted to gain my own independence — to clarify my feelings."

The School of Good Eggs in St. Catharines, a training school for volunteers, was a milestone for Jean.

"I felt it was just a taste of what I wanted to do," she said. "At this point, I thought I was ready to go back to school."

Jean applied to Niagara College and was accepted as a full-time student in September, 1979.

"I've overcome a lot of difficulties," she said. "I've been accepted as myself and I've accepted myself."

"I've got a great future. I know I can make a decision — I can trust myself. I never thought I could do it...but I did."

Maybe fairy tales do come true.

NC Tourism students supervise exhibits

Quebec city winter carnival exhibitions were supervised this year by Niagara College bilingual tourism students.

During the week Feb. 7 to 14, nine students combined business with pleasure acting as hostesses on carnival grounds. Each girl alternated as hostess in seven houses exhibiting craft displays, including wood carvings and weaving.

"The week allowed bilingual students a chance to get acquainted with the French culture, exclusively," Marie Rennie said. Mrs. REnnie, instructor in tourism, accompanied students on the trip.

Students stayed at Place Royale, Quebec city, a removated old fortress established during the days of the colonies.

The week was not solely devoted to work; the group managed some sightseeing, including a tour of Quebec city on foot and a visit to famous national ski centre, Mont Ste. Anne, 22 miles outside the city.

An excursion to Palais de Glace, a huge castle created entirely from ice, was dampened by mild weather.

The trip was highlighted by an Acadian evening, featuring square dancing and the culture of the early French settlers in Nova Scotia.

Sights of Quebec were digested by the group along with daily bowls of typical French onion soup.

The bilingual tourism program began at the college last September.

Early applications get students jobs

It is never too soon to start looking for a summer job. It takes time to find a job and one has to be willing to put in the effort required to find one. The Canada Employment Centre for Students is a good place to begin.

Brad Spencer, supervisor of student services in Port Colborne and Wainfleet, said, "Over 1,000 students registered" with the employment centre last year, and 566 jobs were "secured." In 1980, there were "11 per cent more jobs available to students than in the 1979 season, and 32 per cent more than the 1978 season."

Mr. Spencer said the Canada Employment Centre for Students is a "referral service." The agency is set up so employers can contact the agency for employees. The agency, in turn, refers students to the employer.

The Canada Employment Centre for students, 184 Elm St., Port Colborne, is open from 8.30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

To register with the employment centre takes only minutes . Students of any age are given an application card to fill in, and are interviewed.

Mr. Spencer said 450 students are registered now, but the centre is expecting 1,100.

There is a lot of competition for summer employment, but the first one applying has a greater chance of getting the job.

IEEE's 6th Tech report and banquet

The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (IEEE) will hold its sixth annual Technical Report Night in the Hamilton Room after a banquet on April 7.

"We're hoping to have six presentations under the computer electronic and electrical field," Bruno Allard, Chairman of the Technical Report Night, said. Although there will be no prizes, participants will receive a certificate of merit for their efforts.

The banquet, open to Niagara College students, will be held in the staff dining lounge of the Black Walnut Building. Tickets are $5.50 and will be available from Mr. Allard.

Everyone is invited to the report night and there is no admission charge.

Student gets job

Irene Yurcich, 21, second-year journalism, has been hired by the Cambridge Daily Reporter beginning April 6 to fill vacancy on the lifestyle section of the paper.

"I'm very, very excited," Irene said. "It's a good opportunity and I'm sure I'll be able to put what I've learned into practice."

Irene received word March 25 that she would be replacing a woman who had recently been promoted to the paper's city desk.

OSAP applications expected in April

Application forms for student aid are expected to arrive at Niagara College about the middle of April, Mary Ellen Patterson, student awards officer, said.

The Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) now allows students to take grants without committing themselves to a loan "if they think they can manage," Mrs. Patterson said. The loan is available to them if they need it.

Nearly 1,400 grants and loans were given to Niagara College students in this school year; this figure compares with about 1,000 for the previous year, Mrs. Patterson said.

Students applying for assistance are classed into two groups: independent, and those whose parents are able to help them. Students qualify as independent if they are married, single parents, or have worked three years before going back to school. Students who do not qualify as independent are assessed on various bases, including parents' income.

Processing takes seven to eight weeks after the applications are mailed in. Recipients usually receive half of the money in September and half in January.

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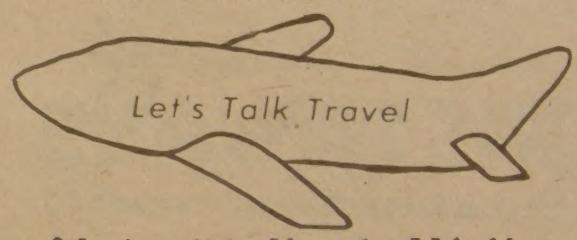

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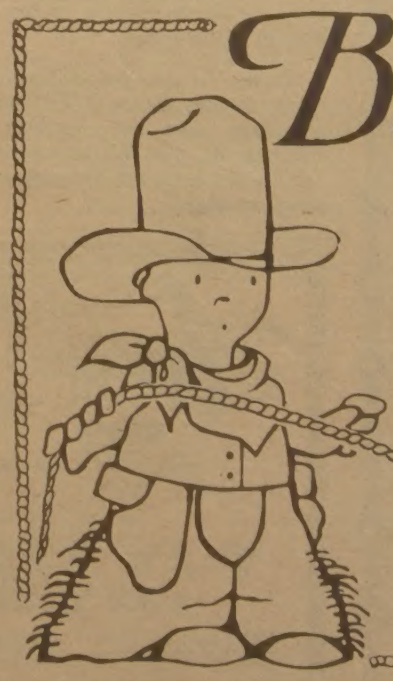

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Labor conference to be held in Niagara Falls

The Institute of Labor and Labor-Management Studies will hold a conference April 23 at the Park Motor Inn, Niagara Falls. The topic will be Automation: Cause and Effect.

Dr. Eric Robinson, labor studies chairman, Niagara College, said the conference will be organized by a joint committee of labor studies and labor-management relations personnel.

Spring trip to view gardens

Anyone looking for an appropriate way to start enjoying the natural splendor of the spring season might consider a Niagara College trip to Longwood and Winterthur Gardens in Pennsylvania.

The trip, from May 8 to 9, will be conducted by Peter Mansfield, Niagara College horticulture co-ordinator.

Included in the $110 fee are two nights' accommodation excluding meals — chartered bus fare and entrance fees to the gardens.

The trip will enable visitors to view "flowering ornamentals at their peak."

Spring is here

Some youngsters in the day care centre take time out from their busy schedule to pose for a photograph and say "cheese." Last week's spring weather was not warm enough to put away the snowmobile suits, toques and mittens, but it was warm enough for these youngsters to get out the tricycles and wagons and get a little play time in the sun. (Photo by Heath)

Unique courses offered at NC

By DON PROCTER
Staff Writer

This spring, continuing education at Niagara College will offer a "unique course" for persons curious in the history and operation of the Welland Canal, Bea Clark, continuing education development officer, said.

In addition, a seminar on suicide will be offered at the college for the first time, she said.

Ms. Clark is responsible for the development and implementation of vocational courses offered through continuing education.

A charter boat cruise from Port Weller to Port Colborne will offer persons an in-depth look at the canal, from its history to its operation today, she said.

Ms. Clark says the course will be taught by Malcolm Campbell, vice-president of St. Lawrence Seaway Authority, and Fred Addis, a Niagara College part-time instructor, aboard the 85-passenger cruise boat, Shiawassie. Students will be given a lecture beforehand on the background of the Welland Canal.

COSTS $45

The course will cost $45 and will run on May 16 and May 17.

A seminar, entitled Suicide Assessment and Intervention, will be conducted on May 5, Ms. Clark said.

Interest in the control and understanding of suicide, prompted continuing education to organize the seminar, she said.

The workshop will be conducted by three persons from the crisis intervention unit in Toronto. The mental health professionals will discuss various aspects of suicide, including how to deal with persons with suicidal tendencies, Ms. Clark said.

The course fee has not been established.

Graduate launches new venture, opens Castaways clothes store

Sylvia Watkins, a graduate of the journalism-print program, provides two kinds of services for people at her new shop, Castaways.

These are "an outlet for people with good used clothing to sell and providing good used clothing at reasonable prices for people who would like to buy it," she said.

Castaways opened its doors March 14. The stock includes women's, men's and children's clothes, hard and soft cover books, baby items and furniture, children's toys and some household items. "We certainly have room for more," she said.

Ms. Watkins was born in Cardiff, Wales, and came to Canada with her parents when she was eight years old. She grew up in Dunnville.

She dropped out of Grade 12 when she was 16 because "I fell in love." She was married at 18 and 20 years later, entered Niagara College as a mature student. She said she started school again because her daughter was growing up. "I needed new direction to my life."

Graduating from Niagara College in 1976, she said she didn't pursue a journalism career because "I was offered a job at the college, so I stayed."

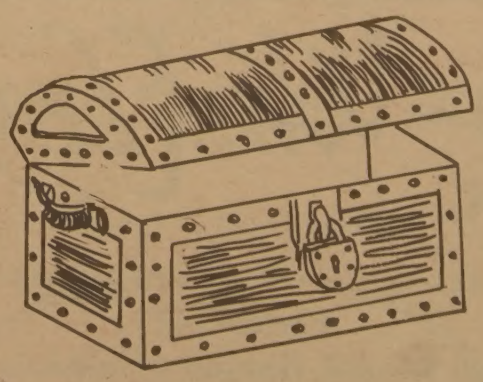
A bachelor of arts degree, in classics and philosophy, a combined major at Brock University, is what she is working on now.

"I may decide to go back to writing someday; I think the more general education you have, as far as writing is concerned, the better."

Wesley Baago, her husband, works at John Deere in Welland and they have one daughter, Victoria, 21. Ms. Watkins uses her maiden name for "for professional reasons."

CASTAWAYS

A treasure trove for Bargain Hunters



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Doctors available to NC students

Although Niagara College Health Centre was designed to provide a myriad of services to both students and faculty, many students are not aware that the centre in the Lundy building across from counselling even exists, Eva Rose, assistant to physicians at the centre, said.

One of the centre's functions is to insure that the medical requirements of certain programs are met prior to registration, Pat Whittaker, registered nurse who fills in for full-time nurse Marian Kerr, said.

These programs include ambulance and emergency care, dental assistant, dental hygiene, early childhood education, educational resource technician, health record technician, health record dicta typist, hotel and restaurant administration, library technician, nursing education, social service and theatre arts. Students of these programs, as well as those wishing to play on varsity athletic teams, must have a complete medical examination by their family physician.

ON FILE

All students are urged to submit a medical report, which accompanies registration forms, to the college, medical reports on file, prompt treatment in case of emergency can be assured.

"A large proportion of students don't bother to fill them out," Mrs. Rose said. "But suppose someone were to go into diabetic shock, and a medical report stating they were diabetic were filed with us, we could look it up and have a pretty good idea right away what's wrong."

Doctors are available twice weekly: Dr. G. A. Alexander on Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and Dr. Michael Lovegrove on Fridays, 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Doctors are available by appointment, under OHIP coverage, to all students, but generally are seen by out-of-town students attending Niagara, Mrs. Whittaker said.

Mrs. Rose emphasized that many students are not aware they are not covered on their parents' OHIP after the age of 21. These students are not turned away, she said, but are urged to apply for coverage. Forms are available at the centre.

The centre provides service in many areas including birth control information, health and diet information, referrals for diagnostic tests or counselling, treatment of upper respiratory infections, and emergencies. Pamphlets are on display inside and outside the centre.

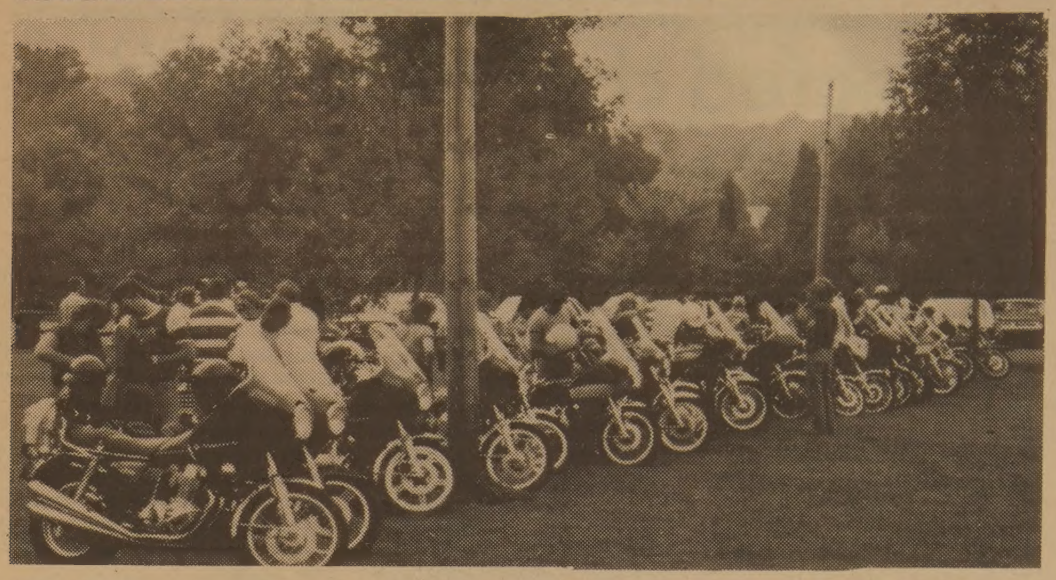
Cots are available to students who become ill at school. They can rest at the centre until transportation home is available.

Over-the-counter medications are dispensed at the discretion of the nurse and prescriptions can be obtained from one of the doctor's at the students' expense.

Treatment and counselling by the centre is confidential.

Mrs. Rose said she would like to see greater use of the centre's services by students.

Entertainment



Blue Knights line up their cycles for a pit stop along poker run route. Members of the international law enforcement motorcycle club travel long distances on deluxe touring bikes.

Blue Knights motorcycling club riding on right side of law

By CARMEN LEGER
Staff Writer

They wear leather and ride motorcycles but don't rape or pillage or harass people.

The members of this motorcycle club are police officers. They are the Blue Knights, an international law enforcement motorcycle club with 125 chapters in Canada and the United States.

"We're a family-oriented touring club," Richard Leger, president of the Niagara chapter, said. "We don't ride the "choppers" usually associated with gangs."

Formed in 1978, the 30-member Niagara chapter is one of seven in Ontario. With 4,000 members internationally, the Blue Knights say they can travel "practically anywhere in the U.S. and Eastern Canada," and know they will be welcomed by fellow officers.

"We've had guests from New Jersey, Rhode Island and Ohio," Richard said. They come to Niagara Falls and stop in for a visit."

Members of the club have travelled to Cape Breton, N.S., the Shenandoah skyline drive in Virginia, as well as Illinois, Wisconsin and Northern Ontario.

John Dixon, secretary, says the chapter is busy on a local level, too.

"We have regular rides twice a week and will have poker runs the fourth Sunday of each month, April through September," he said.

A poker run is a 50 to 100-mile ride with stops planned along the route. Each rider pays an entrance fee, usually $3, and picks up a sealed card at the stops; the rider with the best poker hand at the finish wins half the money collected.

"We often have a pool party or corn roast after the ride," John said.

The season's first ride will be an April Fools' run, Wednesday, April 1. The Blue Knights meet Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings at Ranger's Tavern, Turner's Corner, Highway 20 and Merrittville Highway.

Non-members are welcome, but please — no knives or chains.

Octoberfest band to play final pub

Octoberfest activities will arrive early for the students of Niagara College. The Katzenjammer Kids Barbarian Band will be appearing at pub on Wednesday.

The Katzenjammer Kids band, known for it's dead chicken jokes, applause signs and unquotable lyrics, is the only Bavarian band in the Niagara Peninsula.

The five members of the band are Dan Mikita on accordion, Charlie the Tuba, Norm White on trumpet, Brian Rogers, and Bill McIntyre on trombone.

Mr. McIntyre said the oom-pah-pah band formed for a special Octoberfest night at Rathskeller 10 years ago and it has been together ever since.

However, after the closing of the Rathskeller Pub at the Park Motor Hotel in Niagara Falls, the band has been out of a job.

According to Mr. McIntyre, Harry Oakes, owner of the Rathskeller Pub, decided to change the image of the Park Motor Hotel. He intends to transform the beer hall into a disco.

Already the Rathskeller has changed. The huge tables with signatures carved into the wood have been sold. The broken beer bottles have been swept off the floor and the suds have been removed from the walls.

Meanwhile, the men in shorts and suspenders will remain together playing private engagements.

Mr. McIntyre said playing in the band is a hobby. Each member has a full-time job. They are all members of other bands as well. Both Mr. White and Mr. McIntyre play with the Niagara College Jazz band on Monday nights.

The Katzenjammer Kids play every type of music. However, they are famous for their Octoberfest music.

Rollerskating cancelled due to poor attendance

Student lunch hour roller skating at Roller Alley discontinued on March 17 due to poor attenddance.

Since September, Roller Alley on 34 Douglas Ave. reserved its rink on Tuesdays from 12 to 2 p.m. for Niagara College students.

Michael Petrachenko, Roller Alley manager, said he does not understand why the Niagara College turn-out has "not been as good as last year." Although attendance has averaged 80 students per session, only 27 students attended on Feb. 3.

Last year the sessions ran until April 22, Mr. Petrachenko said. Admission was $2. This year prices were lower. It cost students without skates $2 and those with skates $1.50.

Roller Alley encourages students to use the roller rink as a meeting place.

Welland doesn't have too much to do and we offer a pretty good alternative without booze," Mr. Petrachenko said.

Mr. Petrachenko said publicity was not as effective as he had hoped. In an attempt to attract students, free passes were distributed at Niagara College. He also placed posters around the school and had 2,500 coupons printed for the Campus Welcome Wagon.

RTV's film biggest yet

Camera were rolling when second-year radio and television (RTV) students filmed what they termed their biggest production this year in the Niagara College Resource Centre.

The six students under the supervision of Elias Petras, film instructor in the RTV program, are learning "production techniques basically," Attila Laszlo, a second-year student, said. All cameras and lights are set up by the students.

The eight-minute production entitled "The Niagara College Resource Centre" focuses on how to use the library facilities.

Niagara College art show scheduled next month

Niagara College fine arts students can compete with anyone. An art exhibition in Hennepin Hall from April 10 to 24 will prove this.

"We can hold our own with the best of them," said Ken Cosgrove fine arts instructor, and organizer of the show. The purpose of the exhibition is to reward fine arts, fashion arts, and horticulture students with "some well-deserved exposure."

Mr. Cosgrove said he is tired of being in the backwater; Niagara College is ignored because it does not have the prestige and status of a big name college or university.

"This is going to be a class art show; we don't have any crap round here," he said.

Ontario Premier William Davis has been invited to open the exhibition officially on Friday, April 10, at 8 p.m. Mr. Cosgrove said many other local politicians and media people have been invited since they will draw in people who wouldn't normally attend the exhibition.

The art show will be open to the public from Saturday, April 11 to Friday, April 24. All art work will be on sale, and 10 per cent of each sale will be donated to the Hennepin Art Gallery.

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Spring motorcycling an ounce of prevention

Now that spring is officially here, it is time for faithful motorcycles to come out of storage to be prepared for the open road.

Before a machine is taken out for its seasonal thrashing, there are a few things to check now, rather than spend time during precious riding weather fixing something that broke over the winter.

The first step in a cycle's revitalization process is to clean it until it sparkles and give it a thorough waxing. Not only will this step make the beast flashy when it hits the street, but it will also get the dreaded winter "scud" off of it. Do not forget to Armor-All rubber parts such as tires, seat, airbox-to-carb tubes, cable boots and any other rubber or vinyl extremities.

Oil left in the crankcase over the winter can gum up the engine's interior. When in doubt, change the oil and oil filter.

On the subject of lubrication, get out a favorite lube and make sure to use some of it on the chain, cables, brake cams, swing-arm pivot and any other parts the owner's manual requires.

Now to a more electrifying area, check the breaker points, spark plugs and give the battery its share of distilled water and a one-amp trickle chrge. Check all wiring harnesses and light bulbs for wear and replace if necessary.

Gasoline can turn to varnish after a few months of sitting; check the carbs, float bowls, jets and — don't be so cheap — empty the tank and put in fresh gas. Do not forget motorcycles are a fuel-efficient vehicle; a few lost ounces of gas won't hurt.

Do not forget to check the tires for wear and proper air pressure; replace them if necessary. Buying new tires now is not as painful as an accident from a blow-out.

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Sports

Rejected chance to play pro football for teaching

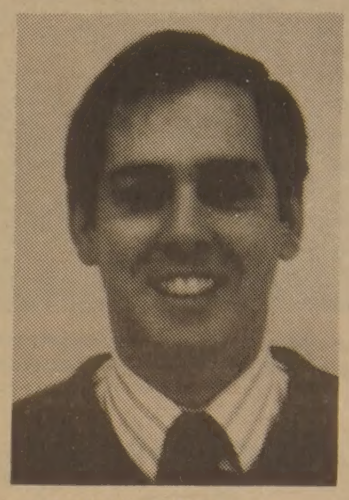
By MICHAEL JIGGENS
Staff Writer

It seems to be every boy's dream to become a professional athlete and, for some, it becomes an obsession. Few of those dreams will ever come true.

It almost came true for Peter Rylander, co-ordinator of athletics at Niagara College, in 1960.

He was a 21-year-old budding quarterback with the University of New Brunswick (UNB) Red Bombers when his talent became known to the Montreal Alouettes of the Canadian Football League. The Alouettes invited him to attend their spring training camp that year but he turned down the offer.

"I turned it down because I was only half way through my program at university and I didn't want to lose the summer job I already had lined up," Mr. Rylander said.



PETER RYLANDER

EARNS DEGREE

Mr. Rylander was studying at the Fredericton campus for a bachelor's degree in physical education at the time of the offer. Instead, he went on to complete his degree, continuing to play his favorite sport which earned him a berth on the first all-star team in the Maritime Football Conference in 1960. He helped the Red Bombers win Maritime titles in 1959 and 1960, his freshman and sophomore years.

A career in teaching inspired him to attend a fifth year at UNB where he received an education degree and another year of football.

Mr. Rylander played three years of varsity basketball at UNB, as well as football, with the Red Raiders but was forced to give it up when knee problems began to hamper his play on the court.

WENT TO MONTREAL

Mr. Rylander returned to his hometown, Montreal, where he taught physical education and mathematics at high school.

Although the reality of playing pro football managed to slip by him, his love for the game did not. He played a year of senior football, quarterbacking the 1963 Quebec league championship team. Coaching his high school team helped to keep up his interest in the sport.

Before coming to Niagara College in 1969, Mr. Rylander spent a year at the University of Oregon, obtaining his master of science in physical education, and a year in Vancouver at another high school teaching position.

"I thought at the time Vancouver would become my new home, but when the opportunity to take on a position at the college level came up, I jumped at the chance," he said.

Mr. Rylander, who, along with Fred Bassi, is responsible for all athletics at Niagara College, coaches the golf and tennis teams and coached the men's basketball team for nine years before passing it on a few years ago.

He hoped Niagara College would some day be able to support a football program. "We tried to get football many years ago but the funding was so costly we never looked at the possibility again."

Although his football playing days are over, he remains active in tennis, squash, hockey, and slo-pitch, never forgetting the thrill he received when a professional sport came knocking at his door.

Students prepare luncheon

Administration students prepared a Hotel and Restaurant luncheon for the Rotary International Fellowship Club at the Rainbow Hotel Centre in Niagara Falls March 19.

The luncheon was part of a week's activities during the fifth annual world curling championships for Rotarians.

John Peacock, co-ordinator of the Hotel-restaurant administration program and a member of the Niagara Falls Rotary Club, said teams came from as far away as Scotland.

The 40 Rotarians were served shrimp cocktail as an appetizer, ragout de boeuf, (beef stew with vegetables) and pomme de terre fondantes (roast potato) as an entree, with sherry trifle as dessert.

Dominic Diodati, chef instructor, supervised the kitchen while Darrell Hicks was the student chef. Mr. Peacock supervised the dining room and Stephanie Medai was hostess. Thirty second-year Hotel-Restaurant students were involved.

CONVOCATIONS IN JUNE

Niagara College Convocations will be held on June 12 and 13 this year. Health Sciences and Technology will have their graduation ceremonies Friday evening, June 12; Business graduation will be Saturday morning and Applied Arts Saturday afternoon.

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Sports

Niagara Falls Flyers soar, thanks to coach Gauthier

By JOE POIRIER
Staff Writer

Paul Gauthier has the Niagara Falls Flyers soaring to new heights this year. Last year's Flyers team did not place well in the league's standings. But as of Friday, March 13, the Flyers could place as high as third in the Ontario Hockey Association's Jr. A Emm's division.

Mr. Gauthier has been accredited the improvement of this year's Niagara Falls Flyers. He recently moved with his family to the Niagara region after he gave up his position as physical education instructor at St. Michael's College in Toronto to become head coach of the 1980-81 Flyers.

As a coach, Mr. Gauthier is a firm believer in commanding respect, developing communication and getting hard work from his players. He believes the "club reflects the coach" and any player who refuses to play by his standards must be cut from the roster — it is in the best interest of the team.

USE POTENTIAL

To mold a team into a successful unit, Mr. Gauthier said a coach must develop and us the physical and mental potential of each player.

PAUL GAUTHIER

"A team is only as strong as your weakest link," Mr. Gauthier said.

His practices are dogged physical workouts that improve the quality and brings out the potential in every player.

"A coach should never call a player down." This breaks down communication and communication is essential in team sports.

Another facet of Mr. Gauthier's success is his effort in minimizing problems. But, most importantly, he acknowledges problems when the occur. There must be "positive motivation." The player must feel a coach is in full control at all times.

Mr. Gauthier's work has not gone unnoticed. Six players on the Flyers team have gained recognition in the National Hockey League draft. The most promising player is Steve Ludzik who is being considered by the Chicago Black Hawks. Steve gained this recognition while breaking Don Lever's Niagara Falls Flyers' scoring record and recording fifth position over-all in number of points he received in this year's OHA Jr. A scoring title.

There is challenge in coaching and Mr. Gauthier loves the challenge and has met it head on. The regular season finishes on Sunday, March 15, and the Flyers are in this year's playoffs.

"It's a whole new season," Don McLean, the Niagara Falls flyers' assistant coach said and he believes Paul Gauthier can lead the Niagara Falls Flyers to a post-season championship.

Praise from Flyers' fans is high for Mr. Gauthier and why shouldn't it be? Mr. Gauthier deserves to be congratulated on his coaching because he has this year's Flyers soaring.

New sport gains student interest

As basketball winds up the intramural sports program at Niagara's Welland campus, there is an interest in initiating a new sport into next year's program — European handball.

European handball is unique in that it combines the skills of two different sports: the dribbling and quick passing of basketball, and the wide open play of football. It is played with a volleyball that can be bounced, thrown or run with. The ultimate goal in European handball is to move down the playing field, which can be indoors or outdoors, and score into a small net guarded by a goaltender.

Unlike football, however, tackling is prohibited, unless those involved in the game are partial to inflicting pain upon one another. The pace of the game is fast, because a player cannot have possession of the ball for more than five seconds, or he must give up the ball to his opponents. The player with the ball has many options: he can run, pass, dribble or shoot. Quick passing, endurance and speed are vital to this exciting sport.

WANTS IT

Richard Alt, first-year electrical technician student, said he would like to see European handball incorporated into next year's program.

"Sure, it would give students another opportunity for intramural sports. It's fun, and it's an inexpensive sport," he said.

European handball does not require a great amount of athletic ability or familiarity with the sport, and this could be a positive factor in student participation. Mark Burns, first-year chemical engineering student, would like to see European handball at Niagara next year. "It's a good activity to have. There would probably be a good turn out for it."

Darren Roberts, first-year journalism student, would like to see European handball at Niagara next year. "I think it would be great. It's fast, exciting and competitive."

Since the only equipment required is a volleyball, European handball is an inexpensive intramural sport. Since it can be played outdoors, it would not conflict with activities in the gym. The only thing keeping European handball from being played is lack of student response. Interested students should get in contact with the organizers of the intramural program.

Grad promoted

Margaret Boyd, 1979 Journalism-Print graduate, has been named general manager of the Town Crier, a weekly newspaper serving Thamesford, Ont.

Upon graduation, Margaret went to work for the Ingersoll Times as a reporter-photographer and was later transferred to that newspaper's parent company, the Tillsonburg News.

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Travelling through Europe fascinates a Canadian

By DOLLY KUSHMIER
Staff Writer

Home is where the heart is for a 20-year-old Beamsville resident.

Doug Harvey, 123 William St., spent the last two months travelling throughout Italy, Austria, Switzlerland, Spain, Africa, Portugal, Yugoslavia and Greece.

Sleeping in a tent, youth hostels and inexpensive hotels, the former Beamsville Secondary School student lived on $10 a day and did most of his travelling by train.

"I did a little hitch-hiking in Italy, but it got pretty discouraging when girls got picked up in 10 minutes and it took me two hours."

Doug found everyone in Europe to be helpful and kind toward him.

"People were great; they were always offering me a place to stay and food to eat."

The Europeans were especially nice to him when they discovered he was Canadian. Even the customs officials greeted him warmly and offered advice on places to stay. An American youth tried to buy his maple leaf sticker from him because he was having trouble with some officials and citizens, Doug said.

WAS HOMESICK

In spite of people's hospitality, Doug said he felt homesick once in a while. Meeting other English-speaking people and fellow travellers cheered him up, however.

"You really appreciate other people who speak English," he said. "They're like your brothers."

Unable to speak or read European languages, Doug felt isolated from the rest of the world. The only North American newspapers and magazines were the New York Times, Playboy and Penthouse.

"At $1 a copy, I could only afford to buy the Times once a week and even then there wasn't much Canadian news in it."

Doug said he found many of the countries to be behind North America in a lot of ways.

STANDARDS LOWER

"The standard of living is much lower over there. Even the plumbing is primitive. Hot showers cost $1 or more and most of the washrooms are co-ed."

Women are treated much differently in Europe than North America.

"There is no women's liberation over there and the men are very chauvinistic."

Although it took some time to adjust to the different cultures and lifestyles, Doug said the experience was invaluable.

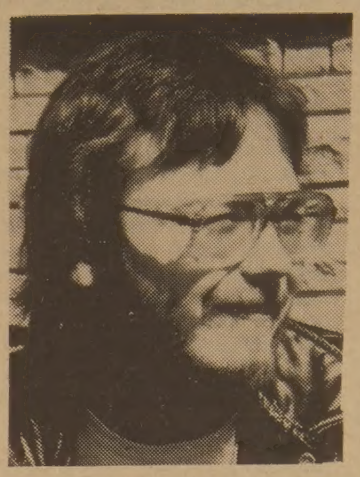
"We live such sheltered lives here in Canada. We don't really know how well off we are or how other people live. A trip like this really puts things in perspective.

The beautiful countryside in all of the countries made a deep impression on Doug, but he considers Switzerland the highlight of his trip.

$14,000 CHEQUE

"It was so beautiful being right up in the mountains and skiing down them was an experience I'll never forget."

Another experience Doug will never forget occurred on a train from Morocco to Casa Blanca,



Africa. A man in the bar offered him a cheque for $14,000 and tried to put something into his bag. The stranger did not speak English, but Doug said he thought the man wanted him to smuggle drugs for him. He refused.

"You have to be very careful over there, hashish is very popular with many Africans but forbidden to the tourists. Getting caught could mean a lot of trouble."

Doug planned to remain in Europe until the summer, but a leg injury forced him to return early. He spent a week in a hospital in Greece, a period he refers to in his diary as "Canadian Hostage, day 1 to day 7."

HOSPITAL OUTDATED

He found the hospital to be outdated in comparison to Canadian facilities and decided to return home when the doctors recommended an operation.

Although Doug is disappointed that his trip ended early, he said he will not return to Europe in the near future. His next goal is to travel across Canada.

"A trip like this really makes you want to learn about your own country as well as other's. I would recommend a trip to Europe for anyone who has the opportunity to go; it's something you'll never forget."

Employment overseas

It has often been said that there is no better way to visit a foreign country than to work in one. For the past seven years, the National Union of Students (NUS) and its affiliated service organization, the Association of Students Councils Canada (AOSC) have been successfully operating Student Work Abroad Programs (SWAP) with help from Employment and Immigration Canada and the governments of participating countries.

Since 1973, SWAP has enabled hundreds of Canadian students to supplement the high cost of travel by undertaking temporary subsistance employment in foreign countries. SWAP is designed to provide a unique opportunity for students to get to know a foreign country and its people from the inside.

Canadian students over the age of 18 can benefit both educationally and culturally by employment abroad and international travel.

Students wishing to work abroad can cut through much of the red tape and confusion, not to mention the frustration, that usually accompanies the process of trying to get permission to work abroad.

There are five SWAP programs available, including Britain, Ireland, Belgium, New Zealand, and a British Isles Package.

School for Parents provides training

Anybody dealing with children from infancy to adolescence knows the frustrations and questions that can arise. The School for Parents can help not only by quelling cabin fever, but giving advice on happier relationships between young and old upon return to the home or workplace.

The School for Parents, established in 1978, is incorporated as a non-profit organization that operates throughout the Niagara Peninsula.

Judi Wild, co-ordinator of public relations for the School for Parents, says their motto is "Have the courage to be imperfect." Mrs. Wild believes many parents think they have to be infallible gods and can never let their children know they make mistakes.

The courses, ranging from the specialized Living With Teens and Surviving, to the basic Parent Communication Program, stress talking and sharing within the home.

"You certainly don't have to be a bad parent to take the course," Mrs. Wild said. "Not everybody who enrolls has a specific problem, some have just heard about the course through word of mouth, and are interested."

The central theme of School for Parents is how to prevent problems from occurring and to deal effectively with them when they do arise. Democracy in the home is emphasized and parents are helped to find the happy medium between anarchy and dictatorship.

Mrs. Wild said she feels that "any parent would benefit" from the school, which operates three sessions a year, in the fall, winter and spring.

"We're taught to do everything, but we're not trained in how to become parents."

The School for Parents was born out of a study of attitudes and habits of parents, students and teachers, carried out by the Addiction Research Foundation.

One significant finding was that when there was good and frequent communication in the household, students advocated the same values and beliefs as their parents. Conversely, when communication was scanty, students reflected contrary views to their parents.

The result of the study was the Parent Communication Program, which has branched out into courses available in Niagara Falls, Fort Erie/ Ridgeway, Welland/ Port Colborne, Fonthill, St. Catharines and Grimsby.

Participation has been excellent, Mrs. Wild said, and she believes that an even greater participation would have a profound effect on lowering the incidence of child abuse.

The courses are taught by voluntary study group leaders, all 80 of whom are parents. They are not professionals, and, as Mrs. Wild says:"It's not some stranger sitting up there telling you exactly how to raise your child." The classes, informal and positive, are usually made up of 10 to 15 adults.

The School for Parents drop-in centre is situated at Richmond Street School in Thorold. It has a lending library and sells books related to the course topics.

Mrs. Wild says she wants the public to know they are welcome to visit the centre or phone for information at 227-0770 for Thorold, and 384-9097 for the Welland area.

"We do a lot of speaking engagements," Mrs. Wild said,